

PRAY FOR THE SICK

Anniversaries:

Mrs White, Dennis McCardle, Maggie Little, Mary O'Sullivan, Sister Patricia Collins, Mark Thompson, William Maher, Arthur Rayner, Joan Spalding, David Millar, Sheamus Hanley.

Congratulations

Many congratulations to Teresa & Martin Hughes who celebrated their 40th wedding anniversary in August.

Gift Aid Envelopes

Can we ask the parishioner who donates using Gift Aid Envelopes **number 81** to provide the parish office with the Declaration form, as currently we are not able to claim tax from HMRC on these donations.

SUNDAY MASSES

St. Thomas'
1st Mass Sat. 6pm; 8.30am;
10am (Children's Liturgy)
11.30am
Chigwell Convent
10am
St. James URC
(Buckhurst Hill)
9am (Children's Liturgy)

WEEKDAY MASSES

St. Thomas'
10am
Chigwell Convent
9.30am
Saturday 10am
(1st Weds of the month)
No morning Mass
Trinity High School
8.20am on Lower Site.

Sponsorship

Rebecca Andrews, ex St Antony's, Trinity Student and Alter Server is cycling from London to Paris this September to raise money for charity supporting people who are affected by homelessness, poverty and trauma. Please sponsor her if you can by donating: my.race-nation.co.uk/sponsorship/entry/201109?fbclid=IwAR0vhGSnmVD7Nh0fpd7Xk92oMOf6LLTnn_Du4TpE2xgSUottAY0sEQ3m6Nc. Thank you!

Football Club

St Thomas of Canterbury are entering their 20th season as a club. We are back training on Tuesday evenings at Ashton playing fields and we have a number of teams confirmed, under 8s, 14s and 15/16's. We also have boys and girls training in other age groups and we are looking to secure enough players to compete at teams. Why not give us a try? Matt Tallon 07855170256 or chairman@stcyfc.com

Parish Partnership Youth

Partnership meeting on **October 3rd** on YOUTH. Visit tinurl.com/STOCSteward for details.



ST THOMAS OF CANTERBURY

Woodford Green

A FAIRTRADE PARISH

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Website: www.stthomaswoodford.org

Facebook: @STOCWoodford

Twitter: @STOCWoodford



Served by the Franciscans

23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time (Cycle C) 8th September 2019

(Education Day)

Please note the nearest Fire Exit to you whilst you are in the Church

Today's readings reflect upon the cost of discipleship. What blessings and sacrifices are involved in following Jesus more seriously?



First Reading Wisdom 9:13-18

God in wisdom made the earth and the heavens and all they contain. Humankind cannot comprehend fully the mind of God or what is on earth.

Second Reading Philemon 9-10. 12-17

In this short letter, Paul appeals to Philemon to take back his runaway slave, not just as a slave but as a brother in Christ.

Gospel Luke 14:25-33

The importance of serious commitment to following Christ. Jesus calls for undivided loyalty above even family loyalties.

Responsorial Psalm

O Lord, you have been our refuge from one generation to the next

Newsletter

To receive the newsletter by email please sign up on our parish website www.stthomaswoodford.org or mail communications@stthomaswoodford.org

Holy Communion preparation

The list of children preparing to receive Holy Communion in the coming year is now complete. No more applications will be accepted. The preparation programme follows the same pattern as last year. But we have a new book guiding us and it promises to be very helpful. I hope all you parents involved will come to the initial parents' meeting on Wednesday September 18th. Even if you have engaged in the programme before there are things that are new as we find some better ways of helping the understanding to grow. The process of leading your child to know and love Jesus is a lovely one, and it can be of great benefit to you parents and all the family. Enjoy!

Parish Council

We all rose early last Saturday morning. Starting at 8.30 we spent a long morning thinking about where our parish is going, and focusing on our aims and intentions for the year now beginning. I am grateful to you for giving up the Saturday morning, and also much other time through the year in building SToC. Shortly a summary of the meeting will be made available. It shows we are making progress towards being a Council which takes responsibility for our growth, ensuring that there is continuity in all the essential tasks, ministries and new initiatives, assisted by the friars. We found we are fully in line with the direction in which the Diocese is leading us in renewal.

Certificates of Practice

Please note that Fr Quentin will be available to sign certificates of practice for school applications on **October 7th** 3-4pm, **October 8th** 7-8pm & **October 15th** 3-4pm.

Retiring collection

There is a retiring collection after all masses this weekend for the Catholic Education Service.

Parish activities

The Parish Office will be closed for one day on Monday 9th September

- **Sunday 8th September**
Children's Liturgy 10am Mass
Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 children
- **Monday 9th September 8pm**
Keep Fit commences
- **Tuesday 10th September 2-4pm**
Tuesday Club. History of Printing - talk by Ken.
- **Wednesday 11th September**
Soup Run Please leave donations in the Becket Centre by 7pm
- **Wednesday 11th September**
Baptism Course - William Scott Room
- **Thursday 12th September, 7.30pm**
Bible Prayer Group in Francis Room
- **Saturday 14th September 10am**
Saturday School recommences, Assisi Room

Mass On-line

6pm Saturday 14th & 28th September

29th September 3pm

Mass for the sick & housebound

A mass for the Sick and Housebound (including those living in care homes) with anointing of the sick will be held at St Thomas' on Sunday 29th September at 3pm, followed by tea and coffee in the Becket Centre. If you require transport to/from the mass please contact the parish office.

24 hour Adoration - 11/12th October

Journey of faith

Are you interested in becoming a catholic or do you want to know more about the faith? Join Journey of Faith Course. It begins on Wednesday, 18th of September at 7pm in Assisi Room in the Becket Centre. To get more information email Alan on alanmair63@gmail.com.

Trinity Open Evening

An Open Evening for prospective entrants to Trinity Catholic High School will be held on Wednesday 25th September 2019. The School will provide two opportunities for parents to visit at 4pm and 5.30pm. Both visits will commence with an address from Dr P C Doherty OBE and will be followed by organised tours of the School. The closing date for applications is 31st October 2019.

Davenant Applications

Those of you who are applying to Davenant should send in a family photo to the Parish Office. Please put your family name on the back of the photo. Photos will not be returned unless a stamped addressed envelop is provided.

Macmillan Cancer Support

Join us in the **Becket Centre after all Masses on Sunday, 29th September** in support of The World's Biggest Coffee Morning, Macmillan's fundraising event for people facing cancer. Last year we raised over £700. Let's do it again this year! If you can bake a cake to support the event, that would be great. Drop it in before the mass you normally attend to help us make a difference!

Saturday 16th November – International Food Evening

We will be hosting our third International Food Evening as a Parish Fundraising event on the 16th November. We currently have had four people come forward and offer to make a dish, if you are also able to contribute please do email michellespears@live.co.uk

Church Cleaning Friday 13th September 2019 at 9am

Marie-Clare Fawsett, Lisa McDonnell, Jackie John, Michelle Liddle & Breda Murphy

Community Sponsorship Project

Thank you so much for all the support and donations from the parish that have helped give the family who have arrived from Syria a great start to their new life in Woodford. They have settled in really well and are grateful for all the generosity shown to them across our multi-faith communities.

Planning for the Christmas Fayre 23rd November

There will be a meeting on **24th September** in the Becket Centre at 8pm please come along if you would like to be involved with the arrangements for this Parish event.

St Antony

has come into the modern world. You see the fine array of electric candles by his statue. Thank God the danger of the burning wax has gone. It is good that there is still such a devotion to St Antony and confidence in his prayers. The act of lighting a candle is a prayer. I think many who do it would not find it easy to explain just how it works. But it is a recognition of the great web of love that streams from God moving through generations of different saints and people and down to our personal cares and worries. It is the communion of saints, belief in which we profess every Sunday. Lighting the candle – whether it be a burning flame or electric – is an expression of our confidence in the support of this family.